

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, African-American history is the chronicle of men and women who prevailed with extraordinary courage and faith against centuries of slavery and discrimination to build lives for themselves and their families while contributing immeasurably to the strength and character of our nation; and

WHEREAS, for much of the past century, the contributions that African-Americans and other minorities made to our nation's progress have not been fully recognized; and

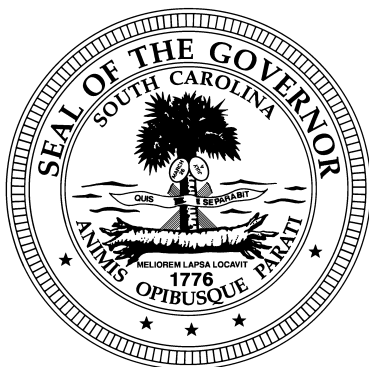
WHEREAS, generations of African-Americans have served our nation and the Palmetto State in positions of distinction, including doctors and scientists, teachers and factory workers, soldiers and athletes, positively impacting our economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, passing traditions from one generation to the next, African-Americans have made significant contributions to our rich history and cultural heritage while sharing many unique talents, including the inspirational and moving sounds of the Palmetto State's Official Music, the Spiritual.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 2006 as

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the many achievements of and contributions made by African-Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual and political development.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA